# **GenScriber ver.** 2.3.4 First Impressions

Presented by David Walker

Ottawa TMG Users Group

5 December 2015

# Introduction

- > Taken from the author's web site, "GenScriber is a transcription editor for census records, church records, birth, marriage, baptisms, burials etc."
- \* "The interface is comprised of several resizable windows with a single main window."
- A register image can be viewed in the top window while data is input in the bottom window."
- There is a choice of data input types. A spreadsheet style grid or a word processor style text editor."
- The worksheet and text pad work independently. They can be used to edit different data by switching between the tabs. It is possible to copy/ paste data between the editors.

# Introduction

- A wide variety of image formats can be viewed in GenScriber, including jpg, tif and pdf.
- > My most used documents include census returns, provincial records, church records and wills.
- This presentation illustrates the latest full release, ver. 2.3.4. Genscriber 2.4 is available as a Beta version. Its many new features are described and illustrated on their web site.

# **Case Studies**

For this presentation I will feature transcriptions of:

> A Last Will & Testament

Census Return

> Marriage Certificate

> Late Registration of Births

# Getting Started

- The first step is to locate the folder containing the image or pdf files to be transcribed
- Select the file to be processed
- Decide whether you will be transcribing as a spreadsheet (e.g. census) or open text (e.g. will)
- If using a spreadsheet format you need to create column headers

The first example will be a typical Last Will & Testament from the early 1820s.

### Selected folder containing list of compatible files

### 2. Selected image file to be transcribed

Tools Updates Help Current Image: Mary Cannon Will - Nova Scotia Probate Records, 1760-1993, Hants Will books. Last will and testament of Mary Cannon 4 🤊 🗟 🖓 10000 Visits to ancestraltrails.ca.png 1910 US Census - Mary (Hawkins) Walker household 1 of 2.jpg 910 US Census - Mary (Hawkins) Walker household 2 of 2. jpg 1930 US Census - Ashley Beals 1. jpg late of Salmouth in the county of Hants, deceased, 1930 US Census - Ashley Beals 2.jpg \_census\_of\_pensioners\_for\_revolutionary.pdf.searchable.pdf A\_genealogical\_dictionary\_of\_the\_first\_s.pdf A\_genealogical\_dictionary\_of\_the\_first\_s.pdf.searchable.pdf merican\_Enterprise.pdf.searchable.pdf dated 18 August 1825. proved approved and legis Charlottetown People's Cemetery Transcripts.pdf Charlottetown People's Cemetery Transcripts.pdf.searchable.pd Charlottetown People's Cemetery Transcripts.tif Charlottetown People's Cemetery Transcripts.tif.pdf Charlottetown People's Cemetery Transcripts.tif.pdf.searchable.pdf Cumberland County Families.pdf offerrge Lyon one of the lered on the oath Cumberland County NS.pdf Death 1862 William Pagan.tiff death 1864 Ann Hetherington.tiff Death 1887 Agnes W. Hetherington.tifl death 1899 Thomas Hetherington.tiff sculing witnesses to the same on the T Setunary 1829. Death 1930 Margaret Hetherington.tif Early Settlers of Cumberland County.pdf wood Cemetery.pdf loseph Charles Cannon.pdf larriaage 1839 Ann Hetherington.tiff This is the last will and testament ofme Marilage 1859 All The teleficient of the adverter of the adver Mary Cannon of Salmouth in the County of Hants. ry Cannon Will - Nova Scotia Probate Records, 1760-1993 Hants . Mary Cannon Will - Nova Scotia Probate Records, 1760-1993 Hants ... jpg Obituary Mrs. Susan Letta Cannon.pdf etition of Elizabeth (Cannon) Rayner.pdf WorkSheet 📧 Column Options 🔚 TextPad 🖻 🎅 🗖 🎒 🛓 🐖 😧 🗠 🖙 🗎 🛍 👗 👫 Arial 18 🛟 **B** 🛛 🗓 ABC ABC

Mary Cannon Will, Nova Scotia Probate Records, 1769-1859, Hants County, Vols. 1-3, 1.

58

Last will and testament of Mary Cannon late of Falmouth in the county of Hants, deceased, dated 18th August 1825. proved, approved and regis--tered on the oath of George Lyon one of the sub--scribing witnesses to the same on the 7th February 1829. This is the last will and testament of me Mary Cannon of Falmouth in the County of Hants. I direct all of my just debts and funeral expences [sic] to be paid by my Executor hereinafter named as soon after my decease as conveniently may be. All the residue of my personal estate of every description, I give and devise to my Daughters, Amelia Louisa Matilda Lutterel Desbarres, Spry Ann Desbarres, Martha Sophia Desbarres and Mary Desbarres equally to be divided betwen them. 3. The TextPad editor was used in this example of a will. My transcriptions use the same paragraph layout as the original. I transcribe with all original spellings.

4. Transcription of the above will

## The next example is a 1901 Canada Census return.

## When transcribing census returns use a spreadsheet format.

### 1. Select Column Options

WorkSheet Column Options 🖺 TextPad												
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Column Title	Column Visible	Width	PickList	AutoInc	AutoFill	AutoRepeat	AutoCase	FixedList	Hint	MaxChars	Hyperlink	
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Names	Show	120	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Sex	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Relation to Head	Show	100	yes	no	no	no	no				no	
Marital Status	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Day & Month Birth	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Year Birth	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Age last Birthday	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Country/Place of Birth	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Year of Immigration to Cana 🔸	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Year of Naturalization	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Race	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Nationality	Show	100	yes	no	no	no	no				no	
Religion	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	
Profession	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no	

2. Key in headers for each column

# Create a Picklist for Repeated Entries



2. Select 'yes' for the header

1. Select the column for the picklist

3. A picklist window opens. Type desired word list.

## 1. Selected folder containing list of compatible files

### 2. Selected image file to be transcribed

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	Cannon, Harry	м		Son	s	12 Feb.	1899		Irish	Canadiar	n Meth	odist												
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# 3. Transcription of the above census enumeration

003567

## The next demonstration will be a Marriage Registration from New Brunswick.

(Schedule B.)

### MARRIAGE.

#### Registration Division of Westmorland County.

#### Bridegroom.

His Name and Age, Arthur P. Walter	
Residence, Amherset tova Scotia	
Place of Birth, <u>few Annan P. E. Islands</u>	
Bachelor or Widower, Bachelor	
Occupation, Machinist	
Religious Denomination, Methodist	
Name of Parents, George & Mary A. Walker (Rolinson)	
ride.	
Her Name and Age, Der Ella Townshend	
Residence, Jolicure Hest On Few Brunsme	10
Place of Birth, Jolicune	
Spinster or Widow, Spinster	
Religious Denomination, Absthadiet	
Name of Parents, Frank & Susan Townshened	
Names and Residences Dudley A. Lambero of Witnesses, Grace Taronshen	
Date of Marriage, June 26th 1912	
By Whom Married, thomas Licks	1
By License or Banns, License	
Signature and P. O. Address Clergyman.	

NOTE.—The above Form is to be filled in fully and accurately by the Clergyman solemnizing the Marriage and forwarded to Mr. F. A. McColly, Division Registrar, Moneton, N. B., as required by Act of Assembly, 50th Vic., Cap. V, initialed "An Act to provide for the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages."

1. As for any new document, the first step is to create a template name and titles for the spreadsheet columns.

2. If desired add a Remarks column, and set to fulltext.

## 3. Click Save when done.

Help

00	Create New Document	
Template Name (id)	You must enter a template name and a list of column	
Marriage Registration for New Brunswick	titles.	
Calumn Titles (enter one ner line)	1. Enter the template name.	
column i nues (enter one per líne)	This is used as a reference (id) if you save a master	
Bridegroom-Name	template.	
Age		
Residence	Use only alphanumeric characters, and no spaces.	
Birthplace		
Bachelor-Widower	Note: The template name does not refer to the	
Occupation	current filename or data, but rather to the column	
Religion	structure.	
Father's-Name		
Mother's-Name	2. Enter the column titles.	
Bride-Name	Enter each title on a new line.	
Age		
Résidence	3. Specify if to set last column as fulltext.	
Birthplace		
Spinster-Widow	4. When done, click on 'Save', and a new document	
Religion	will be created.	
Father's-Name		
Mother's-Name	Don't worry if you make mistakes. You can change	
Witness-1	column names later.	
Witness-2		Ш
Marriage-Date		
By-Whom-Married		
By-License-or-Banns	Important note:-	
Clergyman-Name	Column titles must be unique, and they must not	
Clergyman-Residence	contain special characters.	-
Remarks		
	Spaces in column titles are not allowed. They will be	
	replaced by a dash(-)	
	The best way to format a title is to use 'medial	
Set last column to fulltext	capitals' in compound words, also known as	1.1
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Save

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## 1. Selected folder containing list of compatible files

## 2. Selected image file to be transcribed

	GenScriber 2.3.4 Marriage Arthur Walker & Ella Townshend.csv
File Edit Image Tools Updates Help	
Images Vicklist Hints	MARRIAGE
Louis Henry Davies.pdf Loyalist Conference 2010.pdf LR5 license #-1.png LR5 license #.png Lucy Lydia Borthwick Cooley w Alfred Borthwick, her brother 001.jpg Lucy Lydia Borthwick, age unknown 001.jpg M. Elsarum Moadetapa JPC	Registration Division of Westmorland County.
M. Slocum Healstone.JrG Mac_Convert_GuideMakeUseOf.com.pdf MacBookPro_17inch_UserGuide.pdf MacLife_Apple_Shopping_Guide.pdf mamiya_c3.pdf	Bridegroom.
manual_audio_cleaning_lab_17dlx_en.pdf marchbank history of PEI.pdf marchbank history of PEI.pdf.searchable.pdf Margaret Elizabeth (Montgomery) Carew.jpeg Marjorie (Hooper) Rayner.png Marker - Delia Marie Arsenault (1901-1993).jpg	His Name and Age, Arthur P. Walker Residence, Amherice tova Scotia
marker - john cottle 1701-1798.jpg Marker - Uriah W. Cannon Jr.jpg marker - warren cottle 1755-1811.jpg marr. aleatha ramsay.jpg marr. rufus trenholm.jpg	Place of Birth, <u>ten Annan P. E. Island</u>
Marriage - Charles Holt & Alberta Hicks.jpg Marriage - Dugald Campbell & Jane Cannon page.jpg Marriage - Paul Groves Nunez & Theodosia Elma Walker.jpg Marriage Arthur P. Walker & Ella Townshend.jpg	Occupation, Machinist
Marriage Cert Marjorie Walker.png Marriage David Walker 19 June 1736.jpeg Marriage photo - Elmer Cannon & Joan Grant.png Marriage record - Annabella Read & Robert Inman.jpg marriage record. Joseph Read & Sarah Carruthers.jng	Religious Denomination, Methodist
Marriage Reg. Donald Finlayson & Eliza Townsend.jpg Marriage Regn. Adelaide (Clark) Walker.png	Name of Parents, George & Mary A. Walker (Rolinson)
WorkSheet 🔣 Column Options 🖾 TextPad	

	🖻 🖬 🗔 🔩 🗏 📃	Remarks [Arthur P. Walker]										
l	Bridegroom Name	Bridegroom's Age	Bridegroom's Residence	Bridegroom's Birthplace	Bachelor-Widower	Occupation	Bridegroom's Religion	Father's Name	Mother's Name	Bride Name	Brid	There are two unexplained entries on this do
	Arthur P. Walker	not recorded	Amherst, Nova Scotia	New Annan, P. E. Island	Bachelor	Macinist	Methodist	George Walker	Mary A. Robinson	Ella Townshend	not	were, in fact, born in New Annan. Secondly, old. in Colorado 1900. Arthur's father. Georg
ľ												,,

3. Transcription of the above Marriage Registration There are two unexplained entries on this document. My grandfather declared that he was born in New Annan, Prince Edward Island. He was actually born in Boulder, Colorado. His parents were, in fact, born in New Annan. Secondly, he declared that his mother was Mary A. Robinson. In fact, his father divorced Arthur's mother, Adelaide Mary Clark, when Arthur was 10 years old, in Colorado 1900. Arthur's father, George P. Walker, ultimately married Mary A. Robinson, and they immigrated to Vancouver, British Columbia in 1918.

This is an example of the usefulness of being able to insert a full text window to explain issues encountered with the original document.

## The next demonstration will utilize Late Registration of Births from New Brunswick.

These were devised to accommodate those people for whom there were no original birth certificates, and some proof of birth was necessary later in life.

The informant was usually a parent, sibling, related family member, neighbour, or the person requesting the Late Registration of Birth document.

This form if placed in an envelope, marked " Dominion Statistics-Free, penalty for improper use \$300," and properly addressed to the stated Irish, Scotch, used, as they District Registrar, will pass through the Mail "FREE." FORM C-1. in order of birth, PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK Registered No. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH English, not be t Hecenven CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF BIRTH. not JUL 22 1926 801595 ench, whether should r (BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN) 1. (PLACE OF BIRTH) 5 A ulens ......... Sub-Deputy Registrar area of ....... Sub-Health District of ..... and the number belongs, (If birth occurred in a hospital, give its name instead of Street and Number) the parents 2. FULL NAME OF CHILD Nallell (Surname) (Given name) 0 each, 6. Are parents 3. Sex of child 4. Single, twin, triplet or other? 5. Was the child born alive? 7. Date of birth? married? each of be made for Answer, yes or no. Answer, yes or no. ma Month, day, year **FATHER** MOTHER tongue da 8. Full Name 14. Full Maiden Name a Separate Return must 15. Residence 9. Residence 5 (Usual place of abode.) If non-resident, give place and province. (Usual place of abode.) /If non-resident, give place and province. people The wale is 17. Age last birthday 14 2 years 16. Racial origin 10. Racial origin 11. Age last birthday years 12. Birthplace 18. Birthplace (City or plate, province or country.) Lecenv lo. what a, etc. (City or place, province or country.) 19. Children of this mother (including this birth.) 14. to in, 13. Occupation:people armer. Number born alive 14 Number now living 12 number stillborn (born dead) () (a) Trade or profession..... ovak, Galic ovak, Galic at a birth, 20. Was this a premature birth? (b) Business in which employed A knull. Å 21. Name of Doctor, Nurse or other person in attendance at birth 3 3 described I certify the foregoing to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. 21 54. day of ..... isha, Linns Signature of Informant. ORIGIN I hereby certify that the above return was made to me at..... nationali the RACIAL on the day of. A z 

a Permanent Record. This is Write plainly with unfading ink. Margin reserved for binding.



The first step is to create a list of column titles, using the same procedure described earlier.

	🔴 🔴 💮	reate New Document
	Template Name (id)	You must enter a template name and a list of column 🛓
	Late Reg. of Birth, NB	titles.
	Column Titles (enter one per line)	1. Enter the template name. This is used as a reference (id) if you save a master
	Racial Origin	template.
	Children Born Alive Number Now Living	Use only alphanumeric characters, and no spaces.
	Number Stillborn Premature Birth?	Note: The template name does not refer to the current filename or data, but rather to the column
	Doctor Name Informant Name	structure.
	Relation to Child	2. Enter the column titles.
	Date Recorded	
1. Add 'Kemarks' to	Filed Date Filed Location	3. Specify if to set last column as fulltext.
the end of the list	PANB film Code	4. When done, click on 'Save', and a new document will be created.
	Remarks	Don't worry if you make mistakes. You can change
2. Check here to	► Set last column to fulltext	column names later.
create a text entry box	Help	Cancel Save

There may be instances when you want to have a Remarks window to enter errors or discrepancies from the original document.

## 1. Selected folder containing list of compatible files

[datafile:Late Registration of Births, New Brunswick.csv] [records:25] [template:Late Reg. of Birth, NB] conditions:true/active:false] [columns:34/hidden:1]

## 2. Selected image file to be transcribed

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ile Edit Image Tools Updates Help		Current Image:Birth Reg. Late - Lilian Daisie Perry.jpg
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		Remarks (Perry Lilian Daisie)
2. Full Name of Child 1. City 1. County 1. Province/State 3. Sex 4. Single. Twin etc. 5. Perry, Lilian Daisle Cody Queens New Brunswick F Single Ye 3. Transcripti Late Regist	Born Alive? 6. Parents Married? 7. Date of Birth 8. Father Name 9. Residence 10. Racial Origin 11. Age Last Birt+ 12. Birthplace 13. C yes Nov. 7th, 1900 Elisha Lewis Per+ Cody English 43 Havelock, Kings Co., N.B. Farn on of the above for the above for the state of the state	Late Registration of Birth, Province of New Brunswick  1. The maiden name of Katherine Cecelia is not known

## GenScriber offers the ability to create lists of repeated entries.

🗐 WorkSheet 🛛 📧 Column Op	otions 🔚 TextPad										
🕅 🗘 📫 🕊 🕢		WorkS	heet Column	Options							
Column Title	Column Visible	Width	PickList	AutoInc	AutoFill	AutoRepeat	AutoCase	FixedList	Hint	MaxChars	Hyperlink
2. Full Name of Child	Show	133	no	no	no	no	no				no
1. City	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no
1. County	Show 🔻	100	yes 💽	no 🔻	no 🔻	no 🔻	no 🔻	•	Edit Hint		-
1. Province/State	Show	114	no	no	no	no	no				no
3. Sex	Show	50	no	na	no	no	no				no
4. Single. Twin etc.	Show	125	no	no	no	no	no				no
5. Born Alive?	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no
6. Parents Married?	Show	127	no	no	no	no	no				no
7. Date of Birth	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no
8. Father Name	Show	106	no	no	no	no	no				no
9.Residence	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no
10. Racial Origin	Show	112	no	no	no	no	no				no
11. Age Last Birthday	Show	111	no	no	no	no	no				no
12. Birthplace	Show	156	no	no	no	na	no				no
13. Occupation	Show	100	no	no	no	no	no				no
14. Mother Name	Show	147	no	no	no	no	no				no

2. Select the columnfor which you wantto create a list

1. Select ] Column Options

3. Double click the cell in the Picklist column

4. Click 'EditHint' to open thedialogue box

	🕞 Editing Hint > 1. County	
Albert Carleton Charletta		
Cumberland Hants		
Kent  Kings Northumberland		
Prince Queens		
Saint John Sunbury Victoria		
Westmorland York		
Help	Cancel	Save
		Click 'Sa

A text entry box opens, in which you can type in the repeated items. The list can be edited anytime.

### Click here to add a row above

🔲 WorkSheet 🛛 📧 Coli	umn Options 🛛 🖺	TextPad											
2. Full Name of Child	1. City	1. County	1. Province/State	3. Sex	4. Single. Twin etc.	5. Born Alive?	6. Parents Married?						
Perry, Lilian Daisie	Cody	Queens	New Brunswick	F	Single	Yes	Yes						

Having entered data for the first person you are ready to add subsequent people. You will want to enter the names in alphabetical order. If the name is to be entered after the first, simply place the cursor on the first cell of the second row and start typing.

🔲 WorkSheet 🛛 📧 Col	umn Options 📔	TextPad					
🖻 🗖 🗔 🔩 🗏 📑	🗄 🖹 🗞 🕢						
2. Full Name of Child	1. City	1. County	1. Province/State	3. Sex	4. Single. Twin etc.	5. Born Alive?	6. Parents Married?
Perry, Ann Julia	Codys	Queens	New Brunswick	F	Single	Yes	Yes
Perry, Lilian Daisie	Codys	Queens	New Brunswick	F	Single	Yes	Yes

A sister of Lilian Daisie has been added.

Those of us using Second Site have commented several times that once our TMG projected is published, the resulting Second Site pages have a tendency to display glaring errors.

GenScriber has the same effect when one compiles different records into a single spreadsheet.

# Three daughters

-	WorkSheet 📧 Column Options 🗉 TextPad												
	19, C	hildren Born 🔸	19,	Number Now Living	19. Number Stillborn	20. Premature Birth?	21. Doctor, Nurse or other Name	Informant Name	Relation to Child	Where Recorded	Date Recorded	Filed Date	
(	10		10		0	No	Dr. Adam Armstrong	Elisha Lewis Perry	Father	Codys	21st July 1926	26th July 1926	
I	13		12		0	No	Dr. Brundage	Elisha Lewis Perry	Father	Codys	21st July 1926	26th July 1926	
	14		12		0	No	Dr. Adam Armstrong	Elisha Lewis Perry	Father	Codys	21st July 1926	26th July 1926	

1. Entries for Children Born & Number Now Living differs between the three registrations.

2. This is unsettling given that the informant (i.e. the father) completed these registration forms on the same day.

These discrepancies might well have gone unnoticed had the data been keyed into TMG separately for each child.

Such challenges are all part of the endless challenges we face in assembling family members.

## Visit the GenScriber web site

## http://www.genscriber.com